**Criteria for Developing Essential Questions**

* They are open-ended and resist a simple or single right answer.
* They are deliberately thought-provoking, sometimes controversial, and are usually higher order type questions.
* They require students to draw upon content knowledge and personal experience.
* They are written for the targeted students as the audience.
* They lead to other essential questions.
* They are organized and frame a set of classroom experiences.
* They align with standards (GSE’s).
* They link content, skills, and assessments.
* Each student should be able to understand the question.
* The language of the questions should be written in broad, organizational terms.
* The question should highlight the key concepts.
* Each question should be distinct and substantial.
* The questions should be realistic given the amount of time allocated for the unit.
* There should be a logical sequence to a set of essential questions.
* There should be an appropriate number of questions (not too few/too many)?